



CordisPulse

June 2018

Welcome to June's edition of the CordisPulse - a monthly digest of key research and policy developments across the sectors in which Cordis Bright provides research and consultancy services, i.e. children and young people's services, criminal justice, and adult social care and health.

This month, the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) published its annual Budget Survey of adult social care services in England. Responses were received from all 152 local authorities. Analysis was undertaken by Cordis Bright, in partnership with ADASS Resources Leads.

Our analysis highlighted the following key trends:

- Fewer older and disabled people with more complex care and support needs are getting long-term care.
- 75% of directors reported that reducing the number of people in receipt of care is important or very important for them to achieve necessary savings.
- There is market failure in some parts of the country and fragility elsewhere, with real challenges in recruiting and retaining staff at the levels required.
- Pressure on and from the NHS, particularly in relation to increased attendances at, and admissions, to acute hospitals and resultant increases of people being discharged is impacting on social care services.

The findings have received coverage in the [BBC News](#) and the [Guardian](#).

For further details visit the [ADASS](#) website.



If you would like to discuss any of the issues raised in this month's Pulse please do contact us on 020 7330 9170.

Best wishes,

Dr Stephen Boxford

Head of Research

If you would prefer not to receive future editions of the CordisPulse, please click 'unsubscribe' at the very end of this email. If you would like to discuss anything that arises from the Pulse (or if there are others who you think would like to receive copies) then please contact Dr Stephen Boxford on stephenboxford@cordisbright.co.uk or 020 7330 9170.

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Cordis Bright News

Researcher vacancy

We are a company that continues to grow and we are looking to add additional skills and capacity to our research team. If you would like to find out more then please visit our website [here](#).

The deadline for applications is noon on Monday, 16 July.

Clinical measurement, quality improvement & health economics

Cordis Bright has recently been appointed to the South, Central and West NHS Commissioning Support Unit's Dynamic Purchasing System for project-based consultancy in:

- Clinical Measurement and Quality Improvement (lot 1).
- Health Economics (lot 2).

For further information click [here](#).

Health and social care literature reviews

We have been the evaluation partner for seven NHS New Care Model Vanguard sites in the past two years. Drawing on our work in this field, we will be publishing a series of best practice evidence reviews on a range of issues related to the integration of Health and Social Care over the coming months. This month we present our review of best practice in the management of long-term conditions through enhanced primary care services, which includes a closer look at diabetes management as a case study. You can view the report [here](#).

Adult Social Care and Health

Reports

The Health Foundation and the King's Fund, *A fork in the road: Next steps for social care funding reform*

A collaboration between The Health Foundation and the King's Fund, this report provides an analysis of social care funding pressures and options for change, based on findings from a combination of financial modelling and policy analysis. The report highlights low public awareness of social care and a lack of agreement on priorities for reform as major barriers to progress, despite political consensus on the need for urgent action. The report concludes that reform of the current system will be costly but that if reform is chosen, England is now at a





clear ‘fork in the road’, with a choice between a means-tested system and one that is more like the NHS; free at the point of use for those who need it.

The Health Foundation and the King’s Fund, *Social care funding options: How much and where from?*

This report focuses on the need for review of the current model for public funding of adult social care. The Health Foundation and the King’s Fund consider the implications of introducing changes to the way social care is funded in England and assess the feasibility, costs and public opinion of alternative models.

Age UK, *Everything is online nowadays: What happens if you want to claim Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction and you don’t use the internet?*

This report details findings of a ‘mystery shopping’ exercise, carried out by Age UK with 100 randomly selected local councils in England, to ask what options people have if they want to claim help with their rent and council tax but do not use the internet. The exercise found that while experiences varied, around two-fifths of councils require claims to be made online, or by downloading a form from their website. The report argues that councils should ensure that everyone can access their services and offer offline options so that people who are not online can claim Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction without needing to rely on others.

Briefings

The Health Foundation, *Sharing to improve: four case studies of data sharing in general practice*

This briefing from The Health Foundation introduces approaches to collaborative data sharing that enable improvement in the quality of care. Four case studies offer promising early indications that collaborative data sharing – in different configurations of general practice – has potential to make a meaningful contribution to improving the quality of care. Insights from these case studies show different methods of using data to improve care and share practical learning from groups already experimenting with these efforts.



Tools and Guidance

Home Office, *Modern slavery training: resource page*

This resource from the Home Office is designed to share examples of training products available to public sector professionals and other individuals that might come across victims of modern slavery to help raise awareness, better spot the signs and increase confidence in reporting modern slavery when potential cases are encountered.

Children and young people's services

Reports

Barnardo's, *Involve us, respect us: engaging young people in relationships and sex education.*

In this small scale qualitative study, Barnardo's gathered evidence on the views of young people accessing its services on factors that would help them to engage with Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), which will be compulsory in all schools in England from September 2019. The report stresses that understanding what helps young people engage with RSE will be vital to its success. Past research shows how certain groups of young people – for example, young people with different genders, ages, sexualities, ethnicities, faiths, or those with learning disabilities – have called for RSE that meets their needs and preferences. This study finds that children using Barnardo's services want to see a wide-ranging, in-depth, and sex-positive RSE curriculum delivered collaboratively with young people.



**Involve us,
respect us:**
Engaging young people in
relationships and sex education

Practice recommendations based on a small-scale research study with young people who use Barnardo's services.

Believe in
children
Barnardo's

NSPCC, *From bumps to babies: perinatal mental health care in Wales*

This report provides an overview of the findings from the Perinatal Mental Health in Wales project, a collaboration between NSPCC Cymru/Wales, National Centre for Mental Health (NCMH), Mind Cymru and Mental Health Foundation, with support from the Maternal Mental Health Alliance Everyone's Business Campaign. The project explores perinatal mental health care in Wales and how this is experienced by women and their partners affected by perinatal mental health problems. The report identifies a number of barriers to identifying perinatal mental health problems including lack of knowledge among women and their families, stigma, and heavy workloads and lack of training for health professionals. While the report notes important progress in the delivery of specialist perinatal mental health care in Wales, it emphasises the ongoing existence of a postcode lottery. The report provides a number of recommendations relating to the future of training provision and awareness around perinatal mental health care.

Department for Education, *Transgender awareness in child and family social work*

This study was commissioned by the Department for Education to ascertain the adequacy and consistency of child and family social worker education in regard to gender identity and gender variance. Overall the findings of this research suggest transgender awareness is an area in need of development across the social work profession, with the evidence clearly indicating a demand for additional training materials. The evidence suggests these resources could take many forms, including e-learning, toolkits and good practice guides. Additional recommendations include



instilling leadership on the issue, namely from the Department for Education and Chief Social Workers; improving the visibility and inclusion of transgender people in the social work profession; and continuing to promote multi-agency working.

Department of Health and Social Care, *Step up to social work evaluation after 3 and 5 years*

Step Up to Social Work (SUSW) grew from a government initiative in 2009 to address what were believed to be a number of weaknesses in the prevailing approach to recruiting and preparing intending practitioners for a career in social work, and particularly in child and family social work. This evaluation, carried out between 2015 and 2017, finds positive results in relation to the retention rate of SUSW graduates, graduate progression, and employers' opinions of the scheme. However, the evaluation found similar results for graduates of conventional university-based programmes. The evaluation finds that where SUSW offers a difference to these programmes this may be associated with the 'tailored' nature of the Step Up to Social Work route, which gives recruits a clearer and, in some ways, more direct and welcoming route into child and family social work. In particular, job finding on qualification is easier because SUSW graduates already have a foothold in their sponsoring local authority and are familiar with the working environment.

Sutton Trust, *Free for all?*

Co-authored with the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER), this report takes a snapshot of the free school programme in England, seven years after its establishment. The report looks at the types of school set up, the characteristics of their pupils, and their academic outcomes revealing that free schools are failing to fulfil their original purpose. 'Free for all?' shows the change in structure of free schools over time and argues that they no longer reflect the government's original intentions set out in 2010. The report argues that over the past three years, free schools have become less innovative, less parent-led, and increasingly set-up by academy chains.

Department of Health and Social Care, *Child sexual abuse: trauma informed care.*

This report sets out current knowledge on trauma-informed care approaches to child sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation. It includes personal case studies and recommendations for a trusted relationship model.

Tools and Guidance

Local Government Association and Public Health England, *Good but more to do: Teenage pregnancy and young parents*

This report celebrates the success of the government's Teenage Pregnancy Strategy over the last 15 years, noting that the under-18 conception rate has dropped by 60% and the proportion of teenage mothers in education and training has doubled.

However, the report also emphasises the variation in the teenage birth rate across the country, with 29% of local authorities having a rate significantly higher than the England average, with significant inequalities between wards even in areas that have low rates overall. Accordingly, this report details key factors in addressing teenage pregnancy, stressing the importance of a whole systems approach. The report also provides examples of best practice through case studies from successful local authorities.

Department for Education, *Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges*

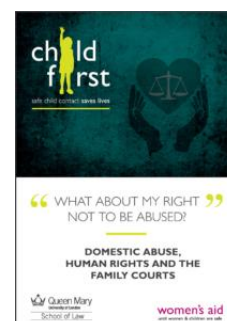
This advice, provided by the Department for Education, sets out what sexual violence and sexual harassment is, how to minimise the risk of it occurring and what to do when it does occur, or is alleged to have occurred. The advice highlights best practice, in addition to cross referencing statutory guidance and legal frameworks, and has been designed primarily for use by schools, colleges, pupil referral units and their senior staff and dedicated safeguarding leads.

Criminal Justice

Reports

Women's Aid, *Domestic abuse, human rights, and the family courts*

This report, created in partnership with Queen Mary University of London, looks at domestic abuse and child contact proceedings in the family courts through the lens of human rights. It is based on the testimonies of 72 women survivors living in England. The report details a glaring gender gap in the way human rights are used and understood in the family courts. It also highlights a clear lack of understanding of the dynamics of domestic abuse, and new evidence of gender discrimination within the institutional culture of the courts.



Ministry of Justice, *Do offender characteristics affect the impact of short custodial sentences and court orders on reoffending?*

Previous studies have shown that custodial sentences of under 12 months without supervision on release are associated with higher levels of reoffending than sentences served in the community via 'court orders' (community orders and suspended sentence orders). This report examines whether this impact differs according to offenders' age, ethnicity, gender, and mental health. Key findings include that the impact of court orders on reductions in reoffending, as compared with short-term custody were greater for people with larger numbers of previous offences, were more likely to benefit offenders aged 18-20 or over 50, and for offenders with significant psychiatric problems. The impact of court orders and short-term custody were similar across ethnic groups and for both males and females.

Clinks, Under represented, under pressure, under resourced: the voluntary sector's role in Transforming Rehabilitation

This report from Clinks details the findings of a survey of 132 voluntary sector organisations involved with probation services. The report finds that voluntary sector involvement in Transforming Rehabilitation is low, unsustainable, and reserved for larger organisations. However, the report also finds that the probation system currently relies on the work of voluntary organisations. Furthermore, the report highlights that voluntary organisations believe that Transforming Rehabilitation has had a negative impact on their services and service users, that a volume-based target driven culture is eroding partnerships, and that confusion around Transforming Rehabilitation could be leading to disinvestment. The report goes on to provide eleven key recommendations for the Ministry of Justice, probation services and the voluntary sector.



Youth Justice Board, Youth Justice Board for England and Wales strategic plan 2018-21

The Youth Justice Board's (YJB) Strategic Plan for 2018-21 outlines how it will support the youth justice system to continue to work effectively with children who have offended or at risk of offending. Acknowledging the move of a number of former YJB functions to the Ministry of Justice and Youth Custody Service, the plan states that the YJB will refocus on its core principles of providing expert, independent advice to ministers and supporting best practice in the youth justice sector. Within this work, the YJB plans to tackle the disproportionate representation of children from some BAME backgrounds in the juvenile secure estate and will focus on best practice in working with a smaller and more complex youth custody cohort. In order to achieve these goals, the YJB plans to incorporate the views of children, continue data collection and analysis within the juvenile secure estate, and to work collaboratively with local service providers.

Tools and Guidance

Local Government Association, Youth justice resource pack

Produced by the LGA, this resource pack is designed to help councils look closely at services in their own areas, and to help them to learn from good practice elsewhere to make sure that services are evolving as they need to, in response to the needs of young people locally. The resource pack includes information on legislation and practice in youth justice, in addition to key lines of enquiry to guide councillors in thinking about the practice of their Youth Offending Teams, work with looked after children, work with children in custody and children at risk of gang membership, radicalisation, and family violence.